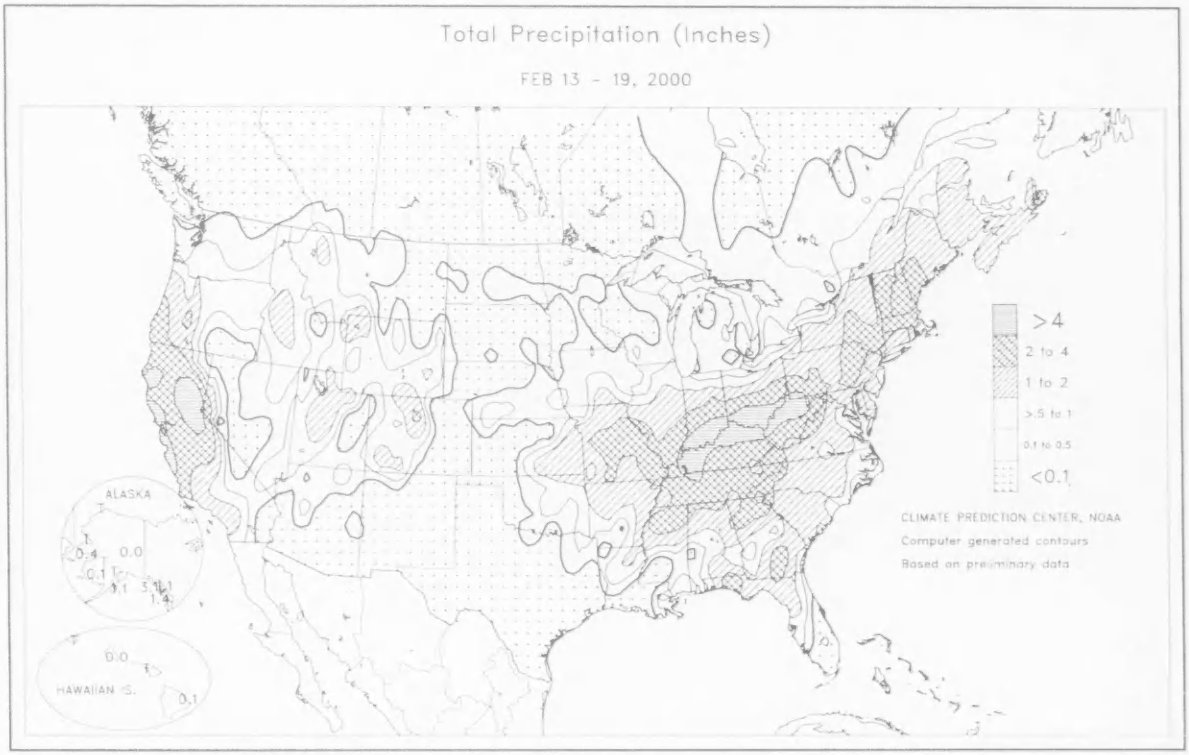
Volume 87, No. 8 February 23, 2000

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board



HIGHLIGHTS

February 13 - 19, 2000

In the **Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys**, heavy rain (2 to 7 inches) flooded lowlands and left fields and feedlots muddy. Meanwhile, light precipitation fell in the **central Plains and western Corn Belt**, providing limited relief from dryness that developed during the autumn of 1999. Soils remained extremely dry, however, from **Texas** to the **Delta**, allowing spring fieldwork to rapidly proceed, but stressing winter grains and newly planted crops. Farther north, the coldest week of the winter increased livestock stress on the **northern Plains**, where weekly temperatures averaged as much as 16°F below normal. Nevertheless, bitterly cold conditions (temperatures below

(Continued on back cover)

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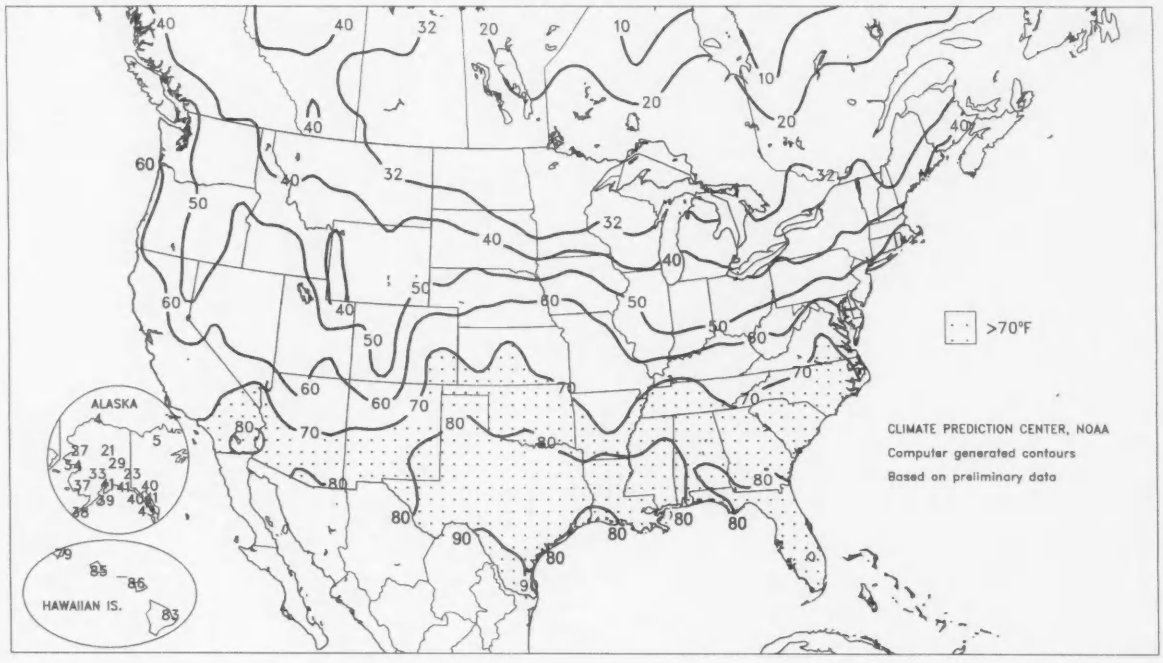
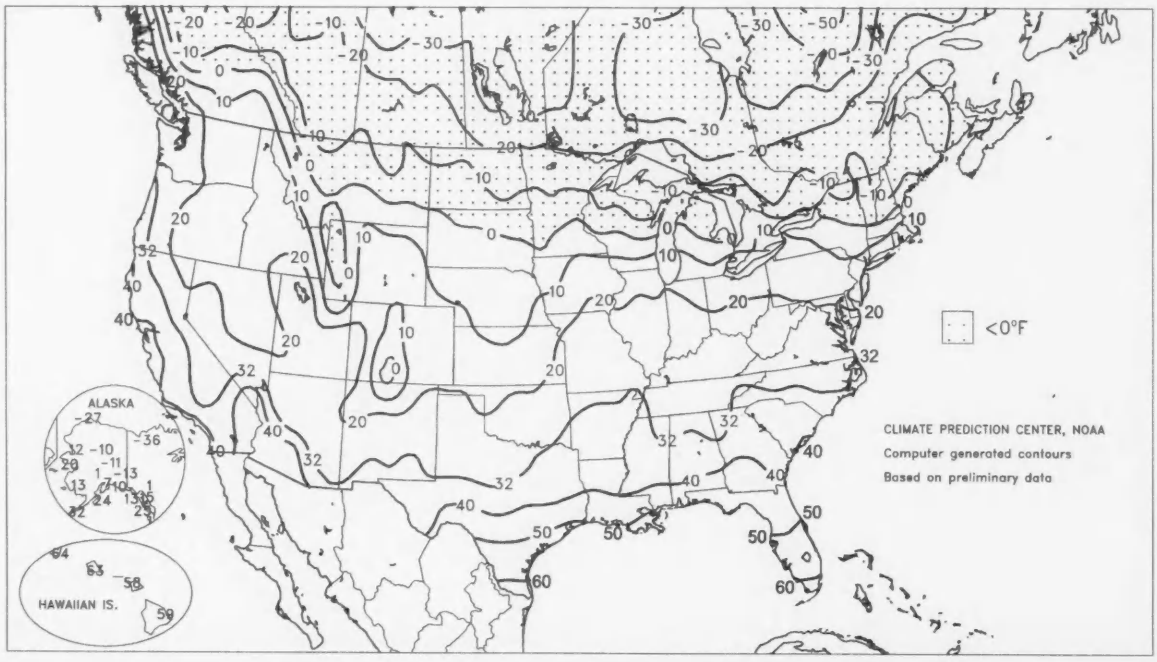
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

FEB 13 - 19, 2000



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

FEB 13 - 19, 2000



Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 19, 2000

Data provided by the Mississippi State Delta Research and Extension Center (DREC) and the Southern Regional Climate Center (SRCC).

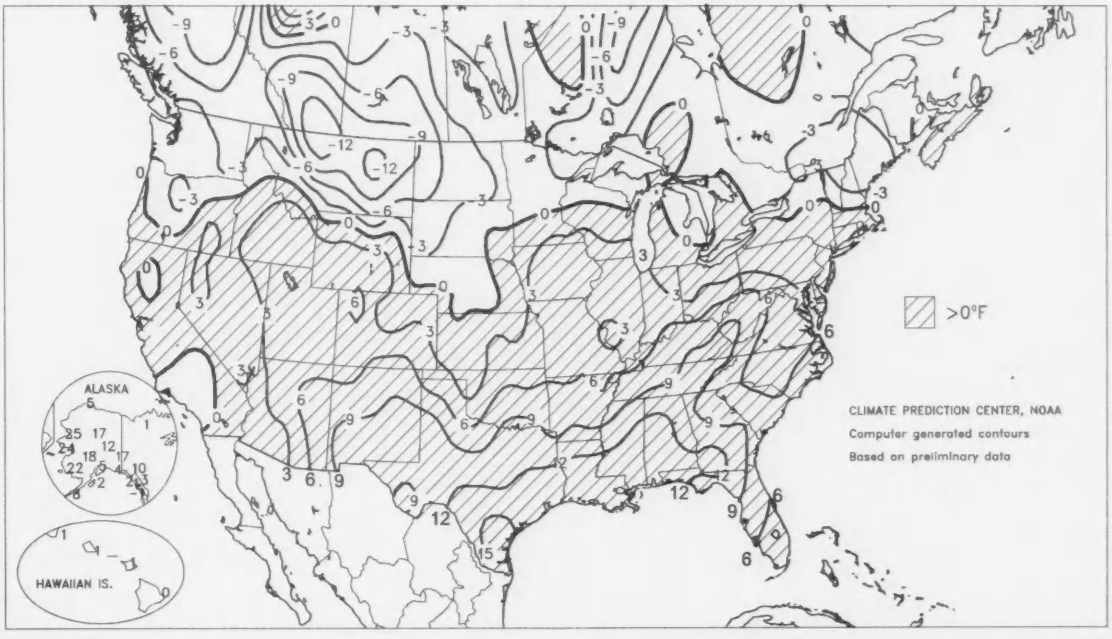
STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							4-INCH SOIL TEMP, °F		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
MS	BATESVILLE [X]	66	43	76	34	55	10	1.54	0.48	0.70	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	3	1
	BELZONI [X]	66	45	81	35	56	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	--	--
	CLARKSDALE [X]	64	42	76	32	53	7	0.98	-0.03	0.70	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	1	2	1
	CLEVELAND [X]	68	42	77	36	55	7	3.27	2.12	1.43	--	--	5.41	80	--	--	0	0	4	3
	GREENVILLE [X]	68	43	80	36	56	6	0.98	-0.17	0.33	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	3	0
	GREENWOOD [X]	71	46	80	39	59	10	0.65	-0.26	0.65	--	--	3.43	48	--	--	0	0	1	1
	INDIANOLA 1S	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	INVERNESS 5E	68	47	81	38	58	--	1.27	--	1.04	6.20	--	3.48	--	59	52	0	0	3	1
	LYON	63	40	75	32	52	--	1.28	--	0.88	6.12	--	2.84	--	--	--	0	1	3	1
	MOORHEAD [X]	69	47	81	38	58	9	0.03	-0.98	0.03	--	--	2.10	28	--	--	0	0	1	0
	ONWARD	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	ROLLING FORK [X]	72	45	80	40	59	10	0.98	-0.08	0.38	--	--	3.14	39	--	--	0	0	4	0
	SIDON	73	50	85	39	62	--	1.27	--	0.58	6.12	--	3.77	--	61	55	0	0	4	1
	TUNICA [X]	60	54	66	32	57	12	0.91	-0.10	0.61	--	--	1.86	27	--	--	0	1	2	1
	VICKSBURG [X]	73	49	81	44	61	9	0.80	-0.31	0.68	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	3	1
	YAZOO CITY [X]	69	51	80	42	60	9	0.30	-0.84	0.30	--	--	2.46	46	--	--	0	0	1	0
	STONEVILLE *	68	42	80	36	55	9	0.55	-0.63	0.40	7.52	109	4.08	32	61	50	0	0	2	0

Compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office.
*** Based on 1964-93 normals.**
[X] Based on 1961-90 normals.

Delta Weather and Crop Summary: A front moved across the Mississippi Delta, producing severe thunderstorms and cooler weather. Despite the cooler conditions toward week's end, temperatures averaged above normal for the second consecutive week. Some farmers began to prepare for spring planting by breaking ground and applying pre-planting chemicals.

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

FEB 13 - 19, 2000



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 19, 2000

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000, Ext. 7503)

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	69	46	76	33	58	12	0.89	-0.28	0.76	9.54	72	6.61	81	94	48	0	0	4	1
	HUNTSVILLE	67	42	74	31	54	11	1.46	0.25	0.63	9.30	65	5.90	71	95	57	0	1	5	1
	MOBILE	75	56	81	43	66	13	0.70	-0.68	0.65	6.93	51	3.50	42	98	54	0	0	4	1
	MONTGOMERY	74	49	80	38	61	11	1.13	-0.25	0.94	8.55	63	5.17	63	94	46	0	0	3	1
AK	ANCHORAGE	30	19	41	7	24	5	0.02	-0.17	0.02	3.74	154	2.19	167	95	73	0	7	1	0
	BARROW	-7	-19	4	-27	-13	5	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.55	138	0.42	175	86	72	0	7	1	0
	FAIRBANKS	19	-2	29	-11	9	12	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.32	143	1.97	256	89	73	0	7	0	0
	JUNEAU	38	26	41	15	32	3	1.05	0.13	0.51	16.21	140	5.91	83	96	70	0	5	4	1
	KODIAK	37	29	39	24	33	2	1.14	-0.14	0.87	12.73	71	5.72	51	94	74	0	6	6	1
	NOME	30	25	34	20	28	24	0.37	0.23	0.12	3.16	155	2.95	244	95	75	0	7	6	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	49	25	58	17	37	5	0.55	0.03	0.32	1.21	21	1.21	35	91	36	0	6	2	0
	PHOENIX	70	49	77	45	60	2	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.01	0	0.01	1	58	25	0	0	0	0
	TUCSON	73	42	80	33	58	3	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.10	4	0.10	8	45	16	0	0	0	0
	YUMA	72	51	80	46	62	1	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	64	27	0	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	61	38	76	32	49	7	0.94	0.28	0.85	7.83	120	2.82	80	89	44	0	1	3	1
	LITTLE ROCK	63	41	76	35	52	8	0.91	0.01	0.73	7.38	70	2.14	37	91	50	0	0	3	1
CA	BAKERSFIELD	62	44	70	37	53	-1	0.37	0.09	0.28	1.70	77	1.57	100	95	54	0	0	4	0
	EUREKA	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	13.81	95	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	FRESNO	60	46	64	41	53	1	1.70	1.26	0.93	6.05	132	6.02	190	99	60	0	0	5	2
	LOS ANGELES	64	53	77	49	58	0	0.95	0.32	0.39	2.56	44	2.16	52	92	54	0	0	3	0
	REDDING	57	40	64	33	49	-2	2.11	1.03	1.78	13.46	92	12.83	140	98	56	0	0	3	1
	SACRAMENTO	58	44	63	38	51	0	2.59	1.89	1.06	12.25	148	12.22	213	10	65	0	0	3	3
	SAN DIEGO	65	53	77	47	59	0	0.29	-0.10	0.16	1.34	30	1.02	36	93	62	0	0	4	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	59	48	64	44	53	1	1.78	1.02	1.37	10.98	114	10.51	160	94	66	0	0	5	1
CO	ALAMOSA	49	11	57	3	30	7	0.02	-0.06	0.02	0.28	32	0.25	57	88	23	0	7	1	0
	CO SPRINGS	49	23	65	14	36	4	0.03	-0.07	0.03	0.91	93	0.71	137	74	30	0	6	1	0
	DENVER	50	22	64	16	36	2	0.09	-0.05	0.09	0.64	44	0.37	45	84	28	0	7	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	48	32	56	28	40	5	0.41	0.30	0.28	2.44	166	2.18	253	92	48	0	3	2	0
	PUEBLO	58	20	73	8	39	4	0.04	-0.04	0.04	0.43	47	0.38	78	82	22	0	6	1	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	40	26	53	19	33	3	1.73	0.99	1.02	6.40	73	4.02	77	92	51	0	6	4	2
	HARTFORD	37	20	46	8	29	1	1.51	0.71	1.02	6.03	64	3.76	67	90	50	0	7	4	1
DC	WASHINGTON	50	33	66	26	42	4	1.21	0.53	0.59	6.75	88	4.26	94	84	45	0	3	5	1
DE	WILMINGTON	42	29	57	19	36	2	1.47	0.75	0.82	7.13	84	5.28	106	85	47	0	5	3	1
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	77	54	84	47	65	6	0.26	-0.53	0.26	3.62	49	2.06	42	99	51	0	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	76	51	81	39	63	8	0.71	-0.28	0.71	4.37	50	3.48	58	99	51	0	0	1	1
	KEY WEST	80	70	83	68	75	4	0.00	-0.44	0.00	1.76	33	1.11	34	93	72	0	0	0	0
	MIAMI	80	66	82	61	73	4	0.05	-0.47	0.03	4.17	80	1.49	44	92	57	0	0	2	0
	ORLANDO	81	56	85	49	68	7	0.02	-0.75	0.02	4.01	62	1.36	32	99	44	0	0	1	0
	PENSACOLA	75	57	81	45	66	12	0.56	-0.81	0.53	7.54	60	3.63	44	97	60	0	0	4	1
	TALLAHASSEE	79	50	86	43	65	12	0.44	-0.97	0.37	5.57	41	3.02	36	10	48	0	0	4	0
	TAMPA	79	60	81	55	70	8	0.23	-0.56	0.23	3.27	53	2.25	56	94	56	0	0	1	0
	WEST PALM	79	62	83	56	70	4	0.01	-0.66	0.01	3.17	45	1.72	38	94	58	0	0	1	0
GA	ATHENS	63	40	74	35	51	5	2.17	1.07	1.51	8.91	77	6.67	88	96	47	0	0	4	2
	ATLANTA	64	42	72	36	53	8	1.07	-0.13	0.82	8.18	67	5.97	75	95	51	0	0	3	1
	AUGUSTA	70	42	79	34	56	8	1.10	0.03	0.57	8.73	85	7.76	112	96	45	0	0	2	2
	COLUMBUS	74	48	77	38	61	11	0.73	-0.48	0.44	6.44	51	4.72	61	98	47	0	0	3	0
	MACON	73	45	80	35	59	10	0.26	-0.93	0.18	7.27	60	5.47	71	98	45	0	0	2	0
	SAVANNAH	72	48	78	37	60	8	0.92	0.12	0.59	5.58	64	3.64	63	98	54	0	0	2	1
HI	HILO	81	63	83	59	72	0	0.11	-2.46	0.11	32.91	115	18.11	109	93	60	0	0	1	0
	HONOLULU	81	66	85	63	74	1	0.00	-0.53	0.00	4.08	46	1.43	28	91	60	0	0	0	0
	KAHULUI	83	63	86	58	73	1	0.03	-0.66	0.02	3.61	38	1.06	17	92	52	0	0	2	0
	LIHUE	78	66	79	64	72	0	0.02	-0.76	0.02	6.46	48	2.37	29	91	67	0	0	1	0
ID	BOISE	49	30	61	21	39	3	0.51	0.26	0.27	3.24	92	2.34	107	84	41	0	6	2	0
	LEWISTON	44	31	49	25	38	-1	0.79	0.57	0.72	3.51	113	2.37	125	98	63	0	5	2	1
	POCATELLO	42	29	51	19	35	5	0.47	0.25	0.27	2.55	93	2.28	139	89	54	0	6	4	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	35	22	43	18	29	3	0.20	-0.13	0.17	4.32	89	1.55	65	94	56	0	7	2	0
	MOLINE	35	23	50	14	29	4	0.62	0.32	0.58	4.29	96	2.02	89	93	66	0	7	3	1
	PEORIA	37	27	51	24	32	6	0.69	0.34	0.66	4.05	84	1.50	63	91	62	0	7	3	1
	ROCKFORD	33	21	41	17	27	4	0.13	-0.15	0.12	3.50	87	1.56	79	97	67	0	7	2	0
	SPRINGFIELD	39	28	51	25	34	5	0.92	0.48	0.89	3.71	70	1.51	59	88	66	0	7	3	1
IN	EVANSVILLE	47	32	59	27	40	5	5.13	4.35	3.39	14.61	176	9.48	206	91	67	0	3	3	2
	FORT WAYNE	34	22	41	15	28	2	0.24	-0.24	0.19	3.64	61	1.69	55	97	74	0	7	3	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	40	28	46	23	34	4	1.30	0.69	0.83	6.11	85	3.50	90	94	64	0	7	4	1
	SOUTH BEND	35	23	42	18	29	2	0.07	-0.39	0.04	5.24	78	2.58	75	90	64	0	7	2	0
IA	BURLINGTON	37	25	53	16	31	4	0.55	0.27	0.33	4.27	110	1.75	92	92	62	0	7	3	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	33	21	47	17	27	4	0.10	-0.15	0.09	2.00	63	1.25	78	95	71	0	7	2	0
	DES MOINES	37	23	59	18	30	5	0.17	-0.11	0.06	1.00	34	0.65	40	92	60	0	7	4	0
	DUBUQUE	31	20	42	16	25	4	0.31	-0.01	0.14	2.57	64	1.71	84	92	67	0	7	3	0
	SIOUX CITY	35	16	50	5	26	2	0.19	0.01	0.12	0.94	55	0.59	63	90	61	0	7	3	0
	WATERLOO	33	20	48	16	26	6	0.23	-0.04	0.10	1.90	70	1.32	92	93	68	0	7	4	0
KS	CONCORDIA	45	22	67	9	33	2	0.20	0.01	0.20	0.85	47	0.42	43	90	52	0	7	1	0
	DODGE CITY	52	25	70	17	39	4	0.01	-0.14	0.01	0.82	55	0.51	61	87	36	0	5	1	0
	GOODLAND	48	20	65	16	34	2	0.09	0.00	0.08	0.68	67	0.37	61	86	37	0	7	2	0
	TOPEKA	46	27	65	18	36	4	0.59	0.33	0.45	2.54	85	0.78	50	90	52	0	6	3	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 19, 2000

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	49	29	70	18	39	4	1.05	0.81	1.05	6.03	238	1.97	148	90	43	0	5	1	1
KY	JACKSON	57	33	66	29	45	8	1.36	0.41	1.01	6.81	64	4.25	68	93	56	0	4	5	1
	LEXINGTON	54	32	66	26	43	8	2.30	1.49	1.61	8.44	95	5.74	117	91	50	0	4	4	1
	LOUISVILLE	52	34	61	28	43	7	4.15	3.32	2.11	15.30	178	9.66	194	90	63	0	2	3	2
	PADUCAH	53	32	70	26	43	6	1.95	0.96	0.77	12.68	121	8.64	149	98	66	0	4	3	2
LA	BATON ROUGE	78	56	84	43	67	14	0.07	-1.33	0.07	8.12	57	2.85	33	94	49	0	0	1	0
	LAKE CHARLES	76	60	79	46	68	14	0.02	-0.86	0.01	6.37	53	1.89	27	10	63	0	0	2	0
	NEW ORLEANS	77	60	81	49	69	15	1.46	-0.08	1.46	7.58	51	3.72	41	99	62	0	0	1	1
	SHREVEPORT	74	49	80	37	61	11	0.75	-0.24	0.71	7.18	67	3.36	51	96	50	0	0	2	1
ME	CARIBOU	23	-2	27	-22	11	-1	0.89	0.42	0.72	6.94	100	4.14	112	91	51	0	7	4	1
	PORTLAND	32	11	36	-2	22	-1	0.89	0.06	0.51	6.38	62	4.38	76	92	56	0	7	5	1
MD	BALTIMORE	47	29	63	19	38	3	1.23	0.45	0.94	7.85	92	4.89	95	90	45	0	5	4	1
MA	BOSTON	41	25	57	19	33	3	1.25	0.34	0.97	5.59	56	4.07	67	90	40	0	7	3	1
	WORCESTER	36	20	50	14	28	3	0.65	-0.20	0.44	6.41	64	3.86	64	92	49	0	7	4	0
MI	ALPENA	28	6	32	-9	17	-1	0.20	-0.11	0.15	3.65	81	2.09	85	95	54	0	7	2	0
	GRAND RAPIDS	32	19	41	12	26	2	0.21	-0.13	0.12	3.56	64	1.25	48	89	61	0	7	2	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	27	7	30	-10	17	-1	0.15	-0.13	0.08	3.30	79	1.67	74	94	61	0	7	4	0
	LANSING	31	16	39	9	24	1	0.12	-0.22	0.09	3.14	67	1.30	55	95	67	0	7	2	0
	MUSKEGON	33	20	40	9	27	3	0.37	0.01	0.27	3.83	60	1.47	44	92	59	0	7	2	0
	TRAVERSE CITY	29	14	33	2	22	2	0.17	-0.16	0.08	4.01	78	2.17	72	89	62	0	7	4	0
MN	DULUTH	19	0	25	-11	10	-3	0.20	0.01	0.20	1.26	43	1.03	61	92	67	0	7	1	0
	INT'L FALLS	18	-9	27	-19	5	-3	0.01	-0.14	0.01	0.82	38	0.64	50	83	49	0	7	1	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	27	14	32	7	20	2	0.17	-0.04	0.10	1.53	60	1.20	81	89	59	0	7	2	0
	ROCHESTER	26	14	35	6	20	3	0.01	-0.17	0.01	2.27	101	1.78	147	97	70	0	7	1	0
	ST. CLOUD	22	5	26	-4	13	-2	0.13	-0.02	0.08	1.24	63	1.02	90	90	62	0	7	2	0
MS	JACKSON	73	49	81	35	61	13	0.33	-0.83	0.33	4.97	35	2.21	26	97	53	0	0	1	0
	MERIDIAN	75	50	82	37	62	13	0.57	-0.79	0.48	7.26	49	3.68	42	99	61	0	0	3	0
	TUPELO	67	42	79	30	55	10	1.52	0.34	1.00	7.93	56	4.90	61	94	52	0	1	4	1
MO	COLUMBIA	41	29	64	25	35	3	1.99	1.53	1.12	6.15	122	2.78	108	94	64	0	6	3	2
	KANSAS CITY	42	28	64	21	35	3	1.02	0.75	0.79	3.70	111	1.52	87	92	60	0	6	3	1
	SAINT LOUIS	43	31	60	28	37	3	2.81	2.28	2.24	5.88	96	4.04	130	96	69	0	6	3	1
	SPRINGFIELD	50	31	69	25	40	4	0.76	0.22	0.47	8.99	144	2.00	65	95	55	0	4	2	0
MT	BILLINGS	29	15	40	12	22	-7	0.22	0.07	0.12	2.30	109	2.10	159	96	68	0	7	3	0
	BUTTE	38	13	47	1	26	4	0.14	0.06	0.05	1.22	101	0.68	88	93	44	0	7	3	0
	GLASGOW	16	-5	29	-15	6	-12	0.14	0.08	0.10	0.59	64	0.39	72	91	70	0	7	3	0
	GREAT FALLS	24	1	36	-6	13	-15	0.40	0.26	0.37	0.86	40	0.83	64	91	67	0	7	2	0
	KALISPELL	31	13	38	3	22	-5	0.02	-0.25	0.02	2.63	65	1.54	67	94	62	0	7	1	0
	MILES CITY	26	6	37	2	16	-8	0.12	0.01	0.10	0.58	39	0.34	40	95	69	0	7	3	0
	MISSOULA	35	20	39	7	27	-3	0.38	0.19	0.34	1.67	57	1.19	66	98	59	0	7	3	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	40	13	64	7	26	-2	0.32	0.14	0.24	0.84	54	0.57	67	91	54	0	7	2	0
	LINCOLN	40	17	66	8	28	1	0.42	0.24	0.38	1.05	58	0.48	52	93	56	0	7	2	0
	NORFOLK	36	17	53	8	27	2	0.14	-0.05	0.08	0.53	31	0.33	35	91	57	0	7	3	0
	NORTH PLATTE	42	15	61	9	28	0	0.14	0.03	0.08	0.53	49	0.48	79	93	48	0	7	3	0
	OMAHA	38	20	61	11	29	2	0.56	0.37	0.42	1.30	59	0.73	62	90	60	0	7	3	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	42	18	53	13	30	-1	0.42	0.31	0.24	1.21	91	1.08	140	90	49	0	7	2	0
	VALENTINE	37	13	51	3	25	0	0.08	-0.03	0.04	0.46	51	0.35	65	96	56	0	7	2	0
NV	ELY	41	22	49	11	31	1	0.33	0.16	0.20	1.24	67	1.19	104	96	50	0	6	4	0
	LAS VEGAS	64	46	70	40	55	4	0.43	0.32	0.43	0.57	49	0.57	73	84	40	0	0	1	0
	RENO	49	31	53	26	40	2	0.62	0.37	0.37	3.02	110	2.95	168	83	38	0	4	3	0
	WINNEMUCCA	48	29	59	19	39	3	0.52	0.37	0.22	2.19	108	2.11	183	97	44	0	4	4	0
NH	CONCORD	32	9	38	-7	21	-1	1.65	1.02	1.17	5.37	73	4.02	95	91	52	0	7	4	1
NJ	NEWARK	43	30	56	23	37	4	1.36	0.61	0.48	7.84	88	4.89	90	83	48	0	6	4	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	59	36	66	28	48	8	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.47	38	0.44	59	55	19	0	2	0	0
NY	ALBANY	32	16	38	3	24	0	0.98	0.42	0.41	5.96	88	4.54	117	88	51	0	7	4	0
	BINGHAMTON	29	17	39	11	23	0	1.97	1.39	1.00	6.82	98	5.17	131	96	62	0	7	6	1
	BUFFALO	30	18	39	15	24	0	0.78	0.20	0.28	5.98	75	3.78	89	94	66	0	7	5	0
	ROCHESTER	31	20	39	12	25	0	0.70	0.18	0.28	6.20	100	4.14	118	94	67	0	7	7	0
	SYRACUSE	31	17	39	6	24	0	1.15	0.62	0.47	5.53	79	4.18	111	91	62	0	7	5	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	58	35	70	33	47	8	1.21	0.22	0.92	7.09	78	5.11	88	90	50	0	0	5	1
	CHARLOTTE	59	36	74	32	48	5	1.92	0.96	0.92	9.25	98	7.51	120	91	53	0	1	4	2
	GREENSBORO	55	35	69	30	45	5	1.20	0.37	0.42	8.27	95	6.22	116	87	50	0	2	4	0
	HATTERAS	61	43	65	35	52	6	0.97	-0.03	0.51	12.40	98	7.83	96	97	73	0	0	4	1
	RALEIGH	57	37	68	31	47	5	1.04	0.11	0.45	10.12	110	7.80	131	90	48	0	2	5	0
	WILMINGTON	67	44	76	35	56	9	1.62	0.71	0.77	7.73	77	6.32	100	91	53	0	0	3	2
ND	BISMARCK	20	0	30	-10	10	-6	0.38	0.27	0.35	1.24	98	1.01	135	90	71	0	7	2	0
	DICKINSON	22	4	32	0	13	-7	0.25	0.17	0.22	0.76	77	0.55	92	92	74	0	7	3	0
	FARGO	17	0	23	-13	9	-3	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.81	50	0.36	37	88	64	0	7	0	0
	GRAND FORKS	23	0	31	-13	11	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.42	25	0.07	7	84	49	0	7	0	0
	JAMESTOWN	16	-2	22	-18	7	-7	0.23	0.12	0.18	0.93	66	0.88	96	92	73	0	7	4	0
	WILLISTON	18	-4	31	-9	7	-10	0.09	-0.02	0.07	0.89	63	0.59	71	90	67	0	7	2	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	34	23	40	16	29	2	0.90	0.34	0.34	6.36	97	4.49	125	98	74	0	7	5	0
	CINCINNATI	46	29	50	24	38	6	2.78	2.11	2.23	11.16	150	7.56	177	94	63	0	6	5	1
	CLEVELAND	35	22	42	16	28	1	0.68	0.13	0.32	6.82	104	4.12	119	97	66	0	7	5	0
	COLUMBUS	40	28	45	22	34	4	1.61	1.05	0.72	8.43	130	5.75	159	93	62	0	7	5	2
	DAYTON	38	26	44	19	32	2	1.57	1.03	0.78	7.43	116	4.87	139	95	68	0	7	3	2
	MANSFIELD	34	23	44	16	29	2	0.98	0.48	0.50	7.43	118	4.73	146	98	70	0	7	3	1

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

Weather Data for the Week Ending February 19, 2000

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP. °F		PRECIP	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Dec 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Dec 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	33	21	42	15	28	3	0.28	-0.15	0.16	3.96	69	2.14	75	92	63	0	7	3	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	34	21	40	15	28	2	1.00	0.50	0.43	6.34	100	3.97	115	98	67	0	7	6	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	61	37	79	27	49	8	0.36	-0.03	0.36	4.82	139	1.11	53	82	39	0	1	1	0
	TULSA	56	34	75	25	45	4	0.19	-0.31	0.19	6.19	126	1.08	39	87	42	0	2	1	0
OR	ASTORIA	52	35	61	30	44	0	0.29	-1.56	0.28	27.64	107	14.78	97	98	60	0	2	2	0
	BURNS	42	25	44	17	34	4	0.50	0.31	0.32	3.12	117	2.55	169	91	50	0	6	2	0
	EUGENE	48	36	53	31	42	-3	1.68	0.31	0.72	17.61	86	13.96	118	99	76	0	1	3	2
	MEDFORD	55	36	61	26	45	2	1.09	0.62	0.65	7.56	103	6.67	165	96	48	0	2	2	1
	PENDLETON	42	29	50	23	36	-4	0.98	0.70	0.94	5.20	132	4.19	182	97	69	0	5	2	1
	PORTLAND	51	34	56	27	42	-2	0.51	-0.42	0.29	12.52	88	8.90	111	97	57	0	3	3	0
	SALEM	49	34	57	28	41	-2	1.38	0.28	0.62	17.87	113	12.49	138	10	65	0	2	4	2
PA	ALLENTOWN	37	23	47	10	30	1	1.15	0.41	0.48	6.55	76	4.10	80	93	58	0	7	4	0
	ERIE	33	22	43	17	28	2	0.65	0.08	0.21	7.48	103	3.64	98	95	71	0	7	4	0
	MIDDLETOWN	40	26	54	15	33	2	1.28	0.54	0.67	6.04	75	3.47	72	86	56	0	7	4	1
	PHILADELPHIA	43	29	57	21	36	3	1.57	0.88	0.87	8.01	95	5.02	99	88	54	0	6	3	1
	PITTSBURGH	38	25	46	19	31	2	1.84	1.25	0.99	6.09	87	3.85	94	94	61	0	7	4	2
	WILKES-BARRE	36	22	43	10	29	2	1.21	0.67	0.70	4.61	76	3.37	95	85	54	0	7	3	1
	WILLIAMSPORT	36	25	48	15	31	3	1.31	0.62	1.00	5.66	77	3.30	76	88	55	0	7	4	1
RI	PROVIDENCE	41	23	57	16	32	2	1.15	0.26	0.93	7.80	73	5.41	86	92	46	0	6	5	1
SC	BEAUFORT	69	48	77	40	59	7	0.80	0.00	0.80	4.90	54	2.43	41	97	53	0	0	1	1
	CHARLESTON	69	47	76	40	58	7	2.00	1.19	2.00	8.58	98	6.04	108	98	58	0	0	1	1
	COLUMBIA	67	44	79	39	55	8	0.97	-0.05	0.87	11.39	106	9.97	139	93	47	0	0	2	1
	GREENVILLE	60	39	74	35	50	6	0.11	-0.99	0.04	7.02	63	4.40	63	92	45	0	0	2	0
SD	ABERDEEN	24	4	30	-6	14	-3	0.18	0.06	0.10	0.76	73	0.61	97	94	68	0	7	2	0
	HURON	32	10	40	1	21	1	0.02	-0.15	0.02	0.35	28	0.25	32	93	56	0	7	1	0
	RAPID CITY	35	13	49	8	24	-3	0.02	-0.11	0.02	0.41	35	0.24	34	92	52	0	7	1	0
	SIOUX FALLS	32	12	38	3	22	2	0.07	-0.09	0.06	0.92	59	0.75	86	91	59	0	7	2	0
TN	BRISTOL	60	35	67	28	47	9	0.98	0.12	0.42	6.50	73	5.05	91	90	47	0	2	5	0
	CHATTANOOGA	62	41	77	32	52	10	0.85	-0.35	0.56	8.45	64	6.62	82	93	52	0	1	5	1
	KNOXVILLE	61	39	70	33	50	10	1.78	0.77	0.71	9.96	88	8.26	121	97	62	0	0	5	2
	MEMPHIS	62	41	74	35	52	7	1.94	0.84	0.76	8.17	66	3.44	52	94	55	0	0	3	3
	NASHVILLE	59	37	73	29	48	7	2.43	1.47	1.34	9.01	84	6.51	107	92	60	0	1	4	2
TX	ABILENE	72	41	89	29	57	9	0.00	-0.30	0.00	0.59	21	0.24	13	78	27	0	1	0	0
	AMARILLO	64	29	82	20	46	7	0.00	-0.15	0.00	1.17	89	0.24	27	77	17	0	6	0	0
	AUSTIN	78	51	85	42	65	12	0.03	-0.52	0.03	4.66	92	3.97	125	92	38	0	0	1	0
	BEAUMONT	76	60	80	50	68	13	0.10	-0.72	0.10	6.30	53	2.27	32	10	63	0	0	1	0
	BROWNSVILLE	84	67	89	64	76	13	0.01	-0.25	0.01	1.43	40	1.11	47	98	56	0	0	1	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	83	63	86	51	73	14	0.06	-0.44	0.05	1.17	27	0.92	30	98	54	0	0	2	0
	DEL RIO	80	55	88	46	68	13	0.03	-0.22	0.03	0.91	50	0.90	74	85	28	0	0	1	0
	EL PASO	72	45	78	36	59	11	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.66	52	0.03	4	49	19	0	0	0	0
	FORT WORTH	72	44	82	34	58	10	0.02	-0.53	0.02	4.16	82	1.61	50	81	38	0	0	1	0
	GALVESTON	72	61	78	56	67	12	0.04	-0.50	0.01	9.17	110	3.36	69	10	76	0	0	4	0
	HOUSTON	79	58	83	46	68	14	0.03	-0.71	0.03	3.59	41	1.39	26	95	50	0	0	1	0
	LUBBOCK	70	36	82	26	53	10	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.08	80	0.03	4	62	15	0	2	0	0
	MIDLAND	73	44	84	33	58	11	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.61	44	0.61	74	59	17	0	0	0	0
	SAN ANGELO	76	45	87	35	61	12	0.00	-0.28	0.00	0.20	9	0.11	7	77	23	0	0	0	0
	SAN ANTONIO	80	57	86	45	68	14	0.01	-0.45	0.01	3.05	68	2.53	85	83	33	0	0	1	0
	VICTORIA	81	61	84	53	71	15	0.11	-0.39	0.08	5.18	92	4.16	117	98	47	0	0	4	0
	WACO	75	47	84	34	61	11	0.00	-0.53	0.00	5.14	105	2.33	77	93	40	0	0	0	0
	WICHITA FALLS	67	38	85	28	53	8	0.45	0.08	0.45	1.90	58	1.18	60	82	33	0	3	1	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	46	33	57	27	40	5	0.54	0.23	0.34	5.54	168	3.70	196	91	52	0	3	4	0
VT	BURLINGTON	26	5	33	-7	16	-2	1.06	0.66	0.61	4.33	82	3.21	111	92	52	0	7	6	1
VA	LYNCHBURG	52	31	66	28	42	5	0.87	0.11	0.49	6.64	82	4.28	88	95	48	0	5	3	0
	NORFOLK	57	38	67	32	47	6	0.39	-0.46	0.26	7.46	80	5.75	94	92	62	0	1	4	0
	RICHMOND	54	33	69	27	44	5	1.24	0.45	1.04	6.98	81	5.26	98	92	54	0	3	4	1
	ROANOKE	52	32	70	28	42	5	1.31	0.55	0.98	6.05	80	3.59	78	85	43	0	5	4	1
	WASH/DULLES	48	30	65	20	39	5	1.16	0.46	0.96	5.63	72	2.96	65	86	46	0	5	3	1
WA	OLYMPIA	49	29	54	24	39	-2	0.59	-0.81	0.43	21.65	107	11.70	97	09	57	0	4	5	0
	QUILLAYUTE	50	28	57	23	39	-3	0.54	-2.58	0.29	37.48	97	15.85	69	99	56	0	6	5	0
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	48	33	55	31	41	-3	0.52	-0.45	0.49	12.08	86	7.02	86	95	53	0	4	3	0
	SPOKANE	35	22	39	14	29	-5	0.25	-0.11	0.22	5.24	97	2.98	99	98	67	0	7	3	0
	YAKIMA	43	26	49	20	35	-2	0.25	0.08	0.14	2.38	76	2.10	121	94	60	0	7	2	0
WV	BECKLEY	51	28	61	26	40	8	1.75	1.01	0.91	5.54	69	3.73	78	92	51	0	7	5	2
	CHARLESTON	56	33	63	29	45	9	3.79	3.03	2.72	7.94	96	5.39	110	92	52	0	3	4	2
	ELKINS	52	27	58	19	39	9	3.44	2.69	2.60	8.55	100	5.27	104	95	44	0	6	6	2
	HUNTINGTON	55	33	62	28	44	9	3.63	2.91	2.79	8.42	104	5.69	120	92	54	0	2	4	1
WI	EAU CLAIRE	28	10	34	-4	19	2	0.21	0.04	0.11	2.62	104	2.25	157	93	62	0	7	2	0
	GREEN BAY	26	12	32	-4	19	0	0.18	-0.08	0.06	2.13	64	1.30	73	93	65	0	7	4	0
	LA CROSSE	32	18	40	9	25	5	0.00	-0.22	0.00	2.11	77	1.46	99	89	57	0	7	0	0
	MADISON	31	17	40	9	24	3	0.60	0.34	0.38	2.38	67	1.52	88	93	61	0	7	4	0
	MILWAUKEE	34	22	40	15	28	5	0.45	0.10	0.31	2.94	61	1.68	67	91	61	0	7	3	0
WY	CASPER	39	22	49	16	30	3	0.20	0.05	0.07	1.05	66	0.95	102	86	51	0	7	4	0
	CHEYENNE	40	21	52	13	31	1	0.24	0.15	0.20	1.24	117	1.05	164	94	56	0	7	2	0
	LANDER	41	19	51	12	30	4	0.16	0.02	0.10	0.33	23	0.18	22	84	28	0	7	3	0
	SHERIDAN	30	11	38	7	21	-6	0.34	0.17	0.17	2.51	134	1.88	159	89	65	0	7	3	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

*** Not Available

NOTE: These data are preliminary and subject to change. In the past, precipitation totals from a number of stations have been incomplete.

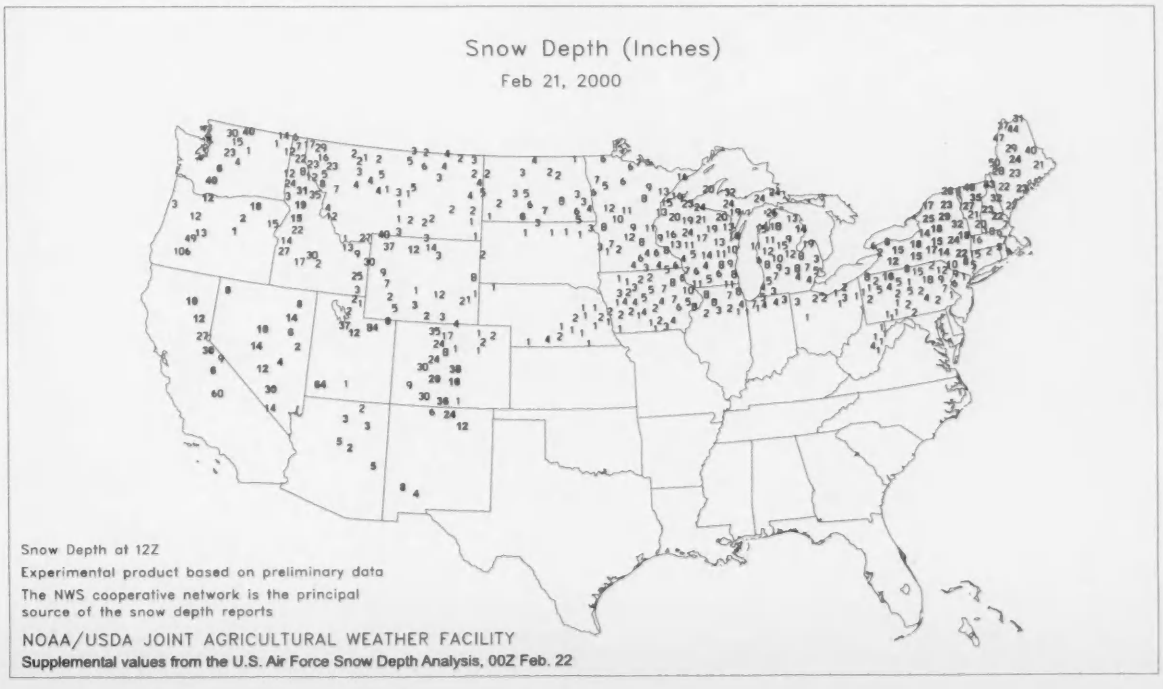
National Agricultural Summary

February 14 - 20, 2000

HIGHLIGHTS

A band of rain centered over the Ohio River Valley boosted soil moisture supplies in the southern and eastern Corn Belt, and parts of the lower Mississippi Valley, Southeast, and Atlantic Coastal Plains. Along the lower Great Lakes and into the Northeast, the storm delivered a mixture of snow, freezing rain, and rain. Light precipitation added moisture to soils in the northern and western Corn Belt and central Great Plains, but most of the northern and southern Great Plains remained dry. Temperatures averaged well below normal in the northern High Plains, and slightly below normal in adjacent areas of the northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest. Snow cover provided some protection for wheat fields in Montana, where overnight temperatures dropped well below zero. Pacific storms shifted southward, with the heaviest precipitation falling in northern California, while the Pacific Northwest benefited from slightly drier weather. Field activity was significantly delayed in California, as soils were too wet to support heavy equipment. However, rainfall enhanced growth and development of dryland grain and oat-hay crops. Moisture and seasonal temperatures also stimulated winter wheat growth, but some stands remained thin. Some low-lying wheat fields were temporarily flooded due to heavy rainfall. Orchard work was also delayed by the wet weather. Where possible, growers pruned and planted trees and vines and sprayed dormant stone fruit trees. In southern California, grapefruit and lemon harvests remained active and navel orange picking continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Almonds and stone fruits were blooming. In Texas, dry conditions and above-normal temperatures, with wind and blowing dust, continued across most of the State. Corn planting expanded in southeastern Texas, where adequate moisture was available. Cotton planting began in the Coastal Bend. In Florida, warmer weather aided plant and tree growth, with some trees developing small bloom buds. Citrus harvest continued in all areas, although some early- and mid-season orange supplies diminished.

(Commodity-specific information will resume during the first week of April 2000.)


Snow Depth (Inches)
Feb 21, 2000
Snow Depth at 12Z
Experimental product based on preliminary data
The NWS cooperative network is the principal source of the snow depth reports
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
Supplemental values from the U.S. Air Force Snow Depth Analysis, 00Z Feb. 22

International Weather and Crop Summary

February 13 - 19, 2000

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Dry weather continued in Spain and Portugal, hampering small grain development.

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably mild weather favored dormant winter grains but continued to erode protective snow cover in major winter wheat-producing areas.

EASTERN ASIA: Across the North China Plain, winter wheat remained dormant, despite warmer weather.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Late-week showers boosted local moisture supplies for main-season rice in Java, Indonesia.

SOUTH AMERICA: Soil moisture remained adequate for summer crop development across most of the region, except in Rio Grande do Sul, where dryness stressed soybeans.

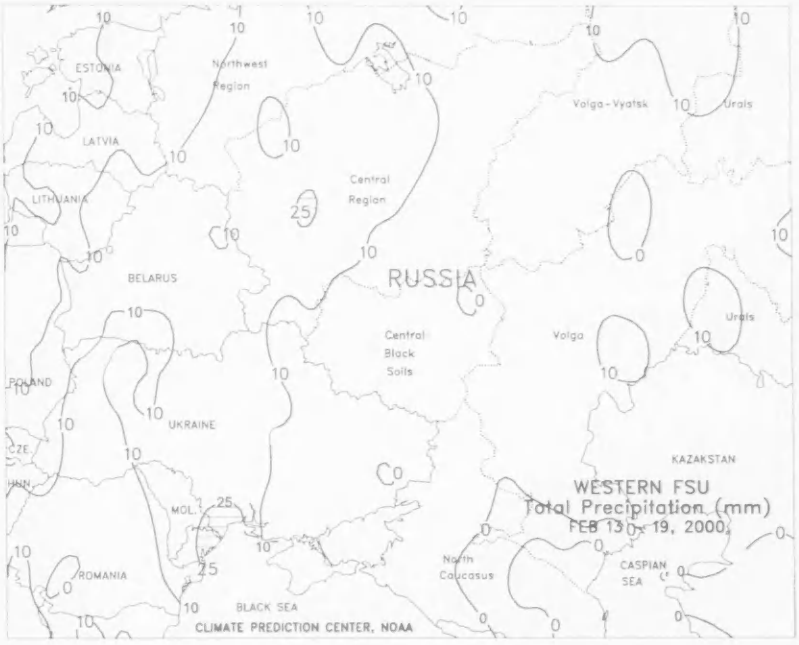
AUSTRALIA: Widespread, locally heavy rain covered the east.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: A developing drought in Morocco and the western two-thirds of Algeria caused crop conditions to deteriorate.

SOUTH AFRICA: Scattered showers maintained generally favorable conditions for reproductive to filling summer crops.

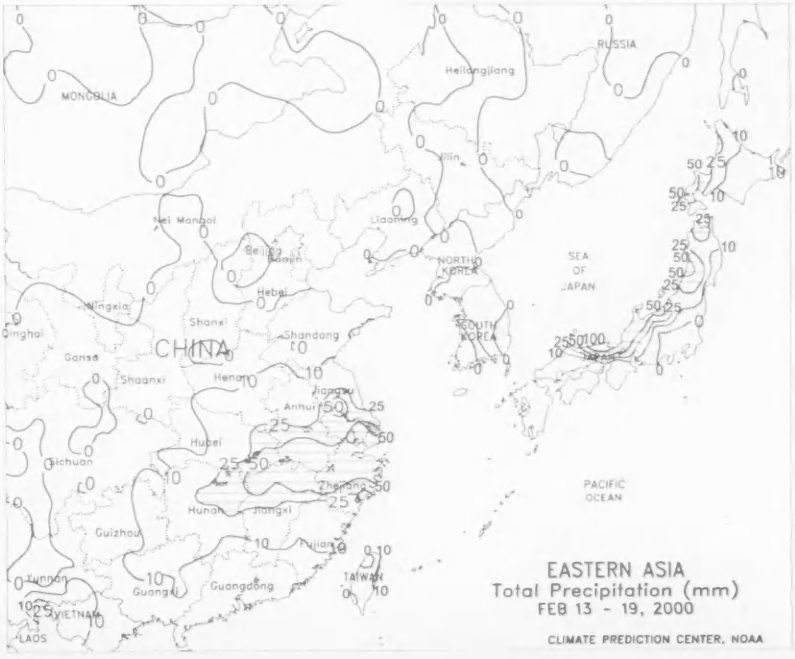
EUROPE

Unseasonably mild weather (temperatures 2-5 degrees C above normal) continued across the continent, spurring winter grain growth in western areas. In eastern Europe, temperatures averaged between 1 and 5 degrees C, slowing the unusually early winter grain development in parts of Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and southeastern Europe. In northwestern and north-central Europe, rain and snow (10-40 mm, with locally 70 mm) fell from England and France eastward through Germany, helping winter crop development. Farther east, lighter precipitation (5-30 mm) fell from Poland and Slovakia southward through Greece, increasing soil moisture for dormant and semi-dormant winter grains and oilseeds. In contrast, dry weather continued across much of Italy and southeastern France, decreasing soil moisture and slowing winter wheat and barley development. Similarly, dry weather persisted across Spain and Portugal, hampering winter grain growth.



FSU-WESTERN

Unseasonably mild weather continued to prevail over most of the region, maintaining favorable overwintering conditions for winter grains. Weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees C above normal in Ukraine, and 5 to 9 degrees C above normal in Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. The most active weather occurred late in the week (February 17-20), when a series of winter storms spread light to moderate snow (6-19 mm, liquid equivalent) from the western Ukraine northward through Belarus into the Baltics. Mixed rain and snow (10-23 mm) fell in the central Ukraine, boosting moisture reserves. Light, if any, precipitation (less than 5 mm) was observed in eastern Ukraine and most of southern Russia. Ahead of these storm systems, minimum temperatures remained above freezing (1 to 6 degrees C) in southern and eastern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region in Russia, diminishing protective snow cover. Furthermore, maximum temperatures in these areas ranged from 5 to 16 degrees C. The mild, dry weather in southern Ukraine and North Caucasus likely prompted early-spring fieldwork. Winter grains in northern Russia remained under a moderate to deep snow cover.



EASTERN ASIA

Across the North China Plain, winter wheat remained dormant, despite warmer weather. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4 degrees C above normal, but minimum temperatures were still well below freezing. Significant rain (10-50 mm) covered the Yangtze Valley, favoring vegetative rapeseed and winter wheat. The moisture spread into southern interior China, but the southern coastal provinces received little or no rainfall.

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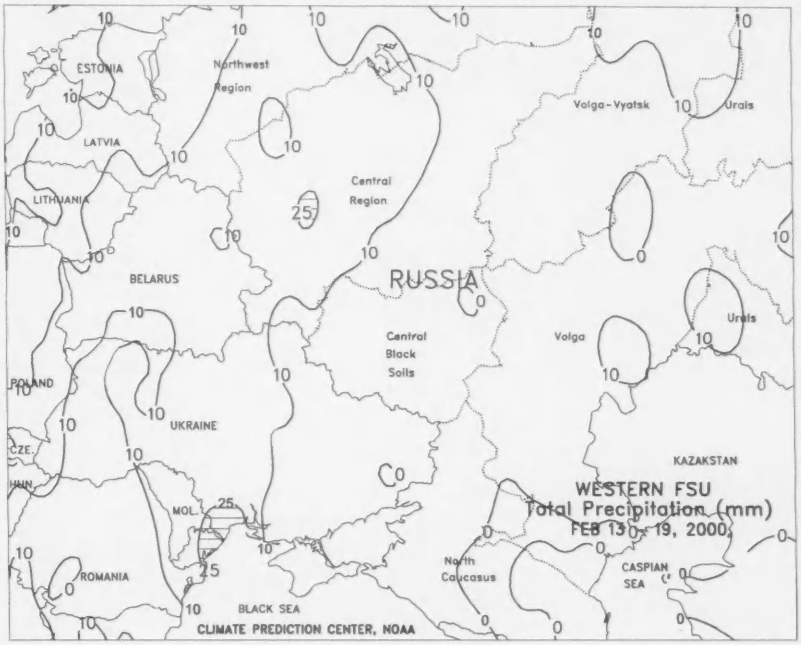

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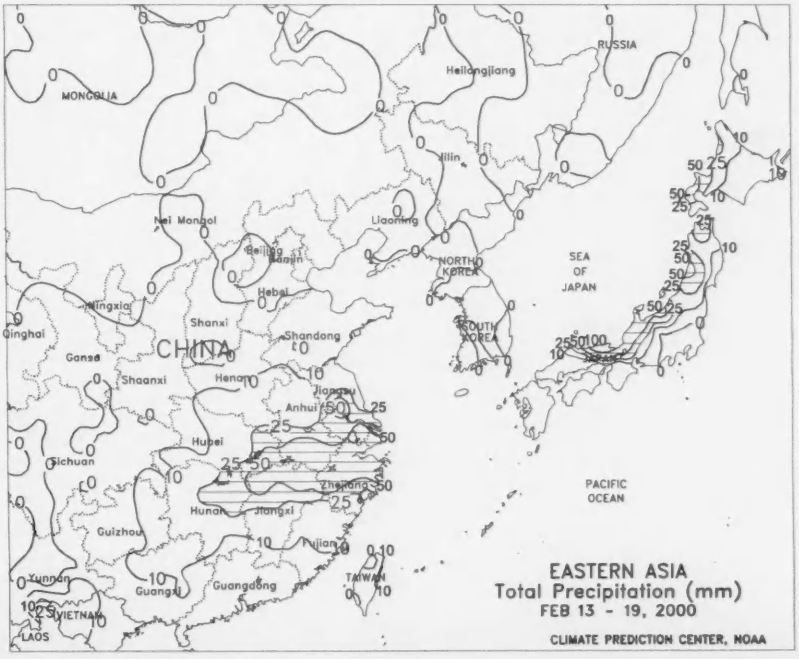

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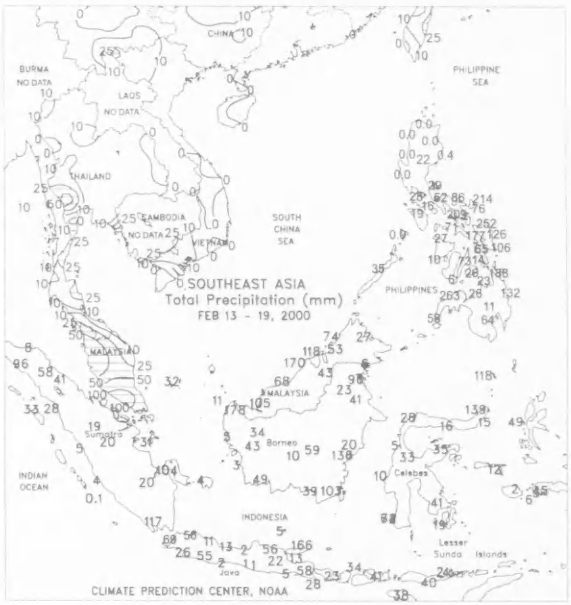
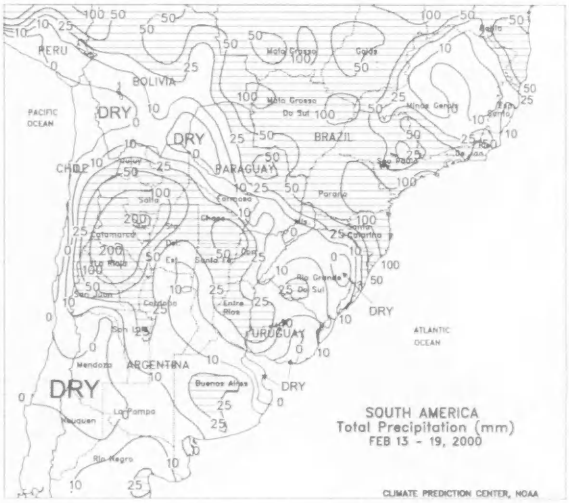
In Java, Indonesia, drier weather began reducing moisture supplies for main-season rice, but late-week showers (25-50 mm) brought some relief to growing areas in the western and far eastern parts of the island. During mid-February, rainfall should typically average between 60 to 80 mm per week across the island. Seasonal showers (40-100 mm) aided oil palm across western peninsular Malaysia, while drier weather (less than 25 mm) was reported across the east. In the east-central Philippines, heavy seasonal showers (100-200 mm) exacerbated flooding. Seasonably dry weather continued across Indochina. Temperatures averaged near normal across Thailand.





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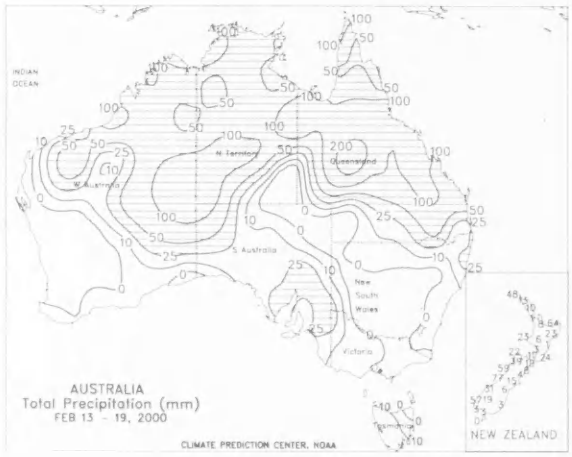
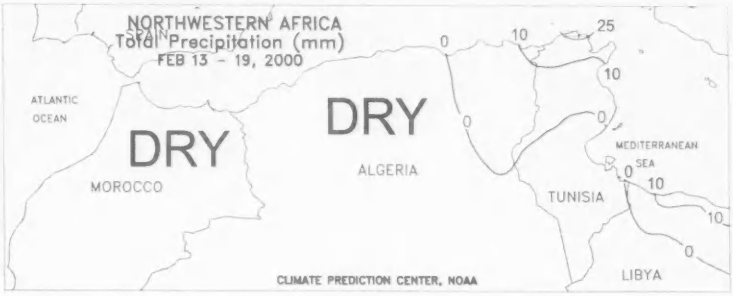
In southern Brazil, widespread showers (30-100 mm) favored filling soybeans and provided adequate moisture for second-crop corn planting from Parana northward. The showers, however, slowed first-crop corn harvesting. In Rio Grande do Sul, light rainfall (less than 15 mm) for the 2nd consecutive week reduced soil moisture and stressed filling soybeans. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal across southern Brazil. Variable showers (5-50 mm) fell across southern Paraguay where moisture supplies are adequate. In northern Argentina, scattered showers (5-75 mm) aided filling cotton. Across the main summer crop areas of central Argentina, scattered showers (5-40 mm) maintained favorable soil moisture for filling corn and reproductive to filling soybeans. Cool weather (temperatures averaged 2-4 degrees C below normal) eased crop water use for summer crops across central Argentina.



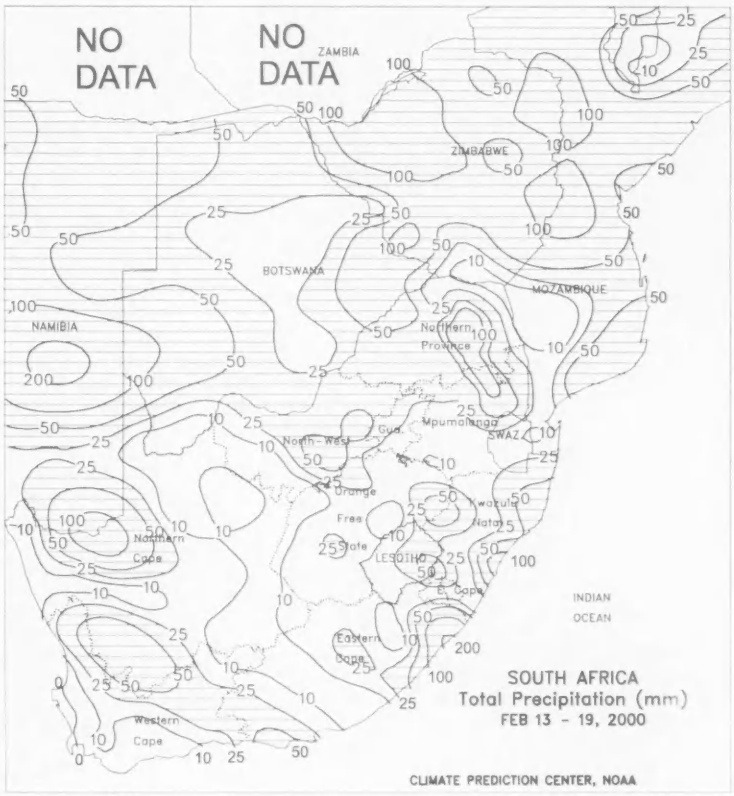
AUSTRALIA

Widespread, locally heavy rain (25-100 mm or more) in southeastern Queensland created an unfavorably wet environment for maturing cotton and sorghum. Heavy rain also extended northward along the coast, likely causing additional flooding in northern sugarcane areas. The main crop areas of New South Wales remained mostly dry, but temperatures throughout the region averaged 3 to 5 degrees C below normal (highs in the upper 20's to lower 30's degrees C), lowering summer crop growth rates. At week's end, rain was approaching grazing and pasture lands in western Queensland. In the southeast, late-week showers (5-25 mm) broke a heat wave and provided limited drought relief. Dry, seasonably warm weather continued across Western Australia. In New Zealand, rainfall was generally light (10 mm or less in most locations) over the main agricultural districts.



NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

High pressure continued to dominate the region, keeping most winter grain areas generally dry. Drought was developing in Morocco and the western two-thirds of Algeria, where little, if any, rain has fallen for the past 7 to 11 weeks. The dryness in these areas has depleted soil moisture reserves, placing increased stress on crops in the jointing stage of development. Furthermore, temperatures in these areas averaged 1 to 4 degrees C above normal, further exacerbating the dry conditions. Farther east, although light showers (2-28 mm) fell over winter grain areas in eastern Algeria and Tunisia, precipitation in recent weeks has begun to taper off, causing crops to rely on diminishing soil moisture reserves to sustain normal development. In general, throughout the entire region, unseasonably warm, dry weather in recent weeks has depleted soil moisture reserves and accelerated crop development. Winter grains are approaching the highly weather-sensitive heading stage of development, and rain is needed soon to prevent significant declines in potential crop yields.



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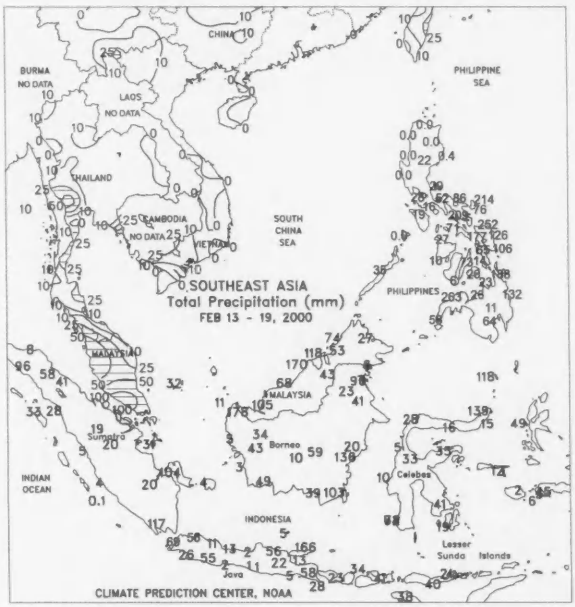

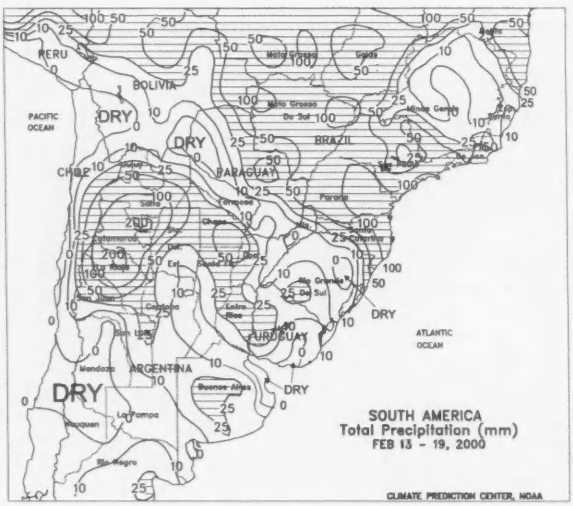

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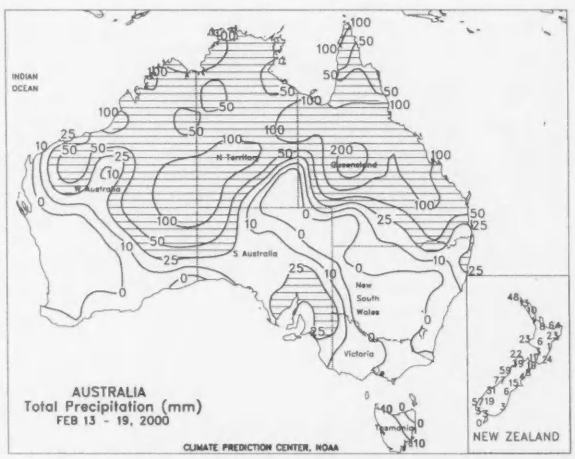

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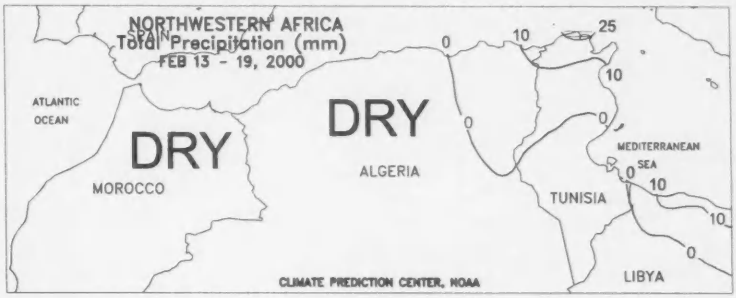

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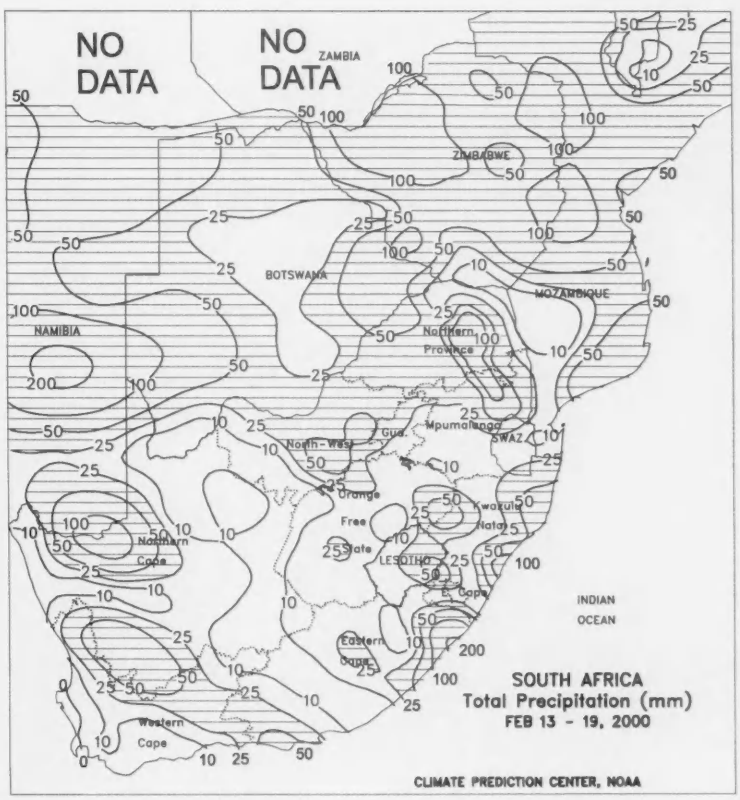

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(Continued from front cover)
-10°F) were confined to areas from **northern Montana** to **northern New England**. Occasionally snowy, breezy conditions also increased livestock stress from the **western Corn Belt** to **New England**. In contrast, very warm conditions (temperatures 4 to 18°F above normal) prevailed across the **South**. In the **West**, widespread precipitation continued to boost moisture reserves and improve high-elevation snow packs. A sixth consecutive week of heavy precipitation raised the water content of the **Sierra Nevada** snow pack to near normal. Little moisture reached **Arizona** and **New Mexico**, however, where ranges, pastures, and dryland crops remained stressed.

A storm's passage on February 18 capped an extremely wet period for the **Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys**. On Friday, **Evansville, IN** netted 3.38 inches (their wettest February day on record, shattering the mark of 3.00 inches set on February 13, 1946), raising their February 1-19 total to 5.29 inches (270 percent of normal), and year-to-date total to 9.65 inches (209 percent). Similarly in **Kentucky**, **Louisville's** January 1 - February 19 precipitation reached 11.31 inches (228 percent of normal), aided by a month-to-date sum of 5.80 inches (276 percent). Late-week flooding ensued on the **middle Ohio River** and its tributaries. On the mainstem **Ohio River**, the crest reached **Maysville, KY** on Tuesday, February 22, approximately 2.8 feet above flood stage.

Exceptionally mild weather prevailed for much of the week across the **South**, resulting in more than three dozen daily-record highs. In **Texas**, **Brownsville** (89 and 87°F) opened the week with consecutive records. On Tuesday, **Abilene, TX** posted a daily-record high of 89°F, while record warmth reached as far north as **Salina, KS** (71°F). After midweek, a cold front briefly ushered cooler weather onto the **Plains**. On Saturday, lows included 12°F in **Gage, OK** and 14°F in **Liberal, KS**. Farther north, late-week snow depths reached 6 inches in **Lincoln, NE** and 1 inch in **Goodland, KS**. Record warmth continued through week's end, however, in the **Southeast**, where **Tallahassee, FL** logged a daily-record high of 86°F on Saturday.

Moderate to severe drought continued to affect many areas from **western Texas** to the **Delta**. In **Houston, TX**, rainfall from August 1, 1999 - February 15, 2000 was just 8.42 inches (34 percent of normal), the lowest on record. **Houston's** previous lowest precipitation during that period was 11.84 inches in 1950-51. Nearby **College Station, TX** received 8.23 inches (39 percent of normal) during the same period, their lowest August 1 - February 15 total since only 8.17 inches fell in 1956-57.

In contrast, continued storminess in the **West** raised the water equivalent of the high-elevation **Sierra Nevada** snow pack to 20 inches (92 percent of normal) by February 18, up from just 3 inches (20 percent of normal) on January 10, according to the California Department of Water Resources. In **California's Sacramento Valley**, **Sacramento's** season-to-date precipitation surged past 13 inches, and above normal, on February 13. As recently as January 11, **Sacramento's** seasonal rainfall stood at just 1.91 inches, or 22 percent of normal. Heavy precipitation reached as far north as **Oregon** on Monday, where **Pendleton** noted their wettest February day on record. **Pendleton's** February 14 total reached 0.94 inch, breaking their record of 0.87 inch set on February 18, 1949. High winds accompanied some of the storminess, including a gust to 63 mph in **Redding, CA** on February 14. Farther east, strong thunderstorms swept across the **South** on the night of February 13-14, resulting in 18 fatalities in **southern Georgia** due to tornadoes.

Meanwhile, wintry conditions clung stubbornly across the **North**. On Monday, 18.3 inches of snow blanketed **Caribou, ME**, breaking their single-day February record (16.9 inches) set on February 12, 1952. Additional snowfall reached the **Northeast** late in the week, when totals reached 8.0 inches in **Boston, MA** and 10.5 inches in **Jaffrey, NH**. By Saturday morning, snow depths across the **North** included 4 inches in **Glasgow, MT**, 17 inches in **Wausau, WI**, 20 inches in **Burlington, VT**, and 44 inches in **Houlton, ME**.

Hawaii's pattern of mostly dry weather and near- to below-normal temperatures continued for the fourth week in a row. Meanwhile, **interior Alaska** reported a fifth consecutive week of above-normal temperatures. Very mild conditions also prevailed across **western Alaska**, where weekly temperatures averaged up to 25°F above normal.

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